

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the abstract of the disclosure, which is found on application page 28, with the following replacement abstract:

~~Electron gun with focussing anode, forming a window of this gun, application to irradiation and sterilisation.~~

~~This gun comprises a chamber (2) under a vacuum, containing a cathode (6) with an emitting face (8) emitting electrons, and an anode (4) formed in one of the walls of the chamber and transparent to electrons. The anode is curved to resist the pressure difference between the inside and the outside of the chamber. The emitting face is also curved and cooperates with the anode to focus electrons outside the chamber.~~An electron gun includes a sealed chamber under vacuum. A cathode having an emitting face is placed inside the chamber. An anode forms a sealed window, formed facing the emitting face in one of the walls of the chamber. The anode is capable of allowing electrons emitted by the emitting face to pass through. A biasing apparatus sets up a voltage between the anode and the cathode, capable of accelerating these electrons towards the anode, the electrons thus accelerated forming a beam that passes through the anode. The anode and the emitting face each have a curvature, the curvature of the anode making it capable of

resisting a pressure difference between the inside and the
outside of the chamber and being designed to cooperate with the
curvature of the emitting face to focus the electron beam
outside the chamber.